DEAD AGAIN!
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SUPERMAN
IN ACTION COMICS
BY
MICHELINIE,
BUICE AND
RODIER
1994
48
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
BUICE
BODY OF EVIDENCE!
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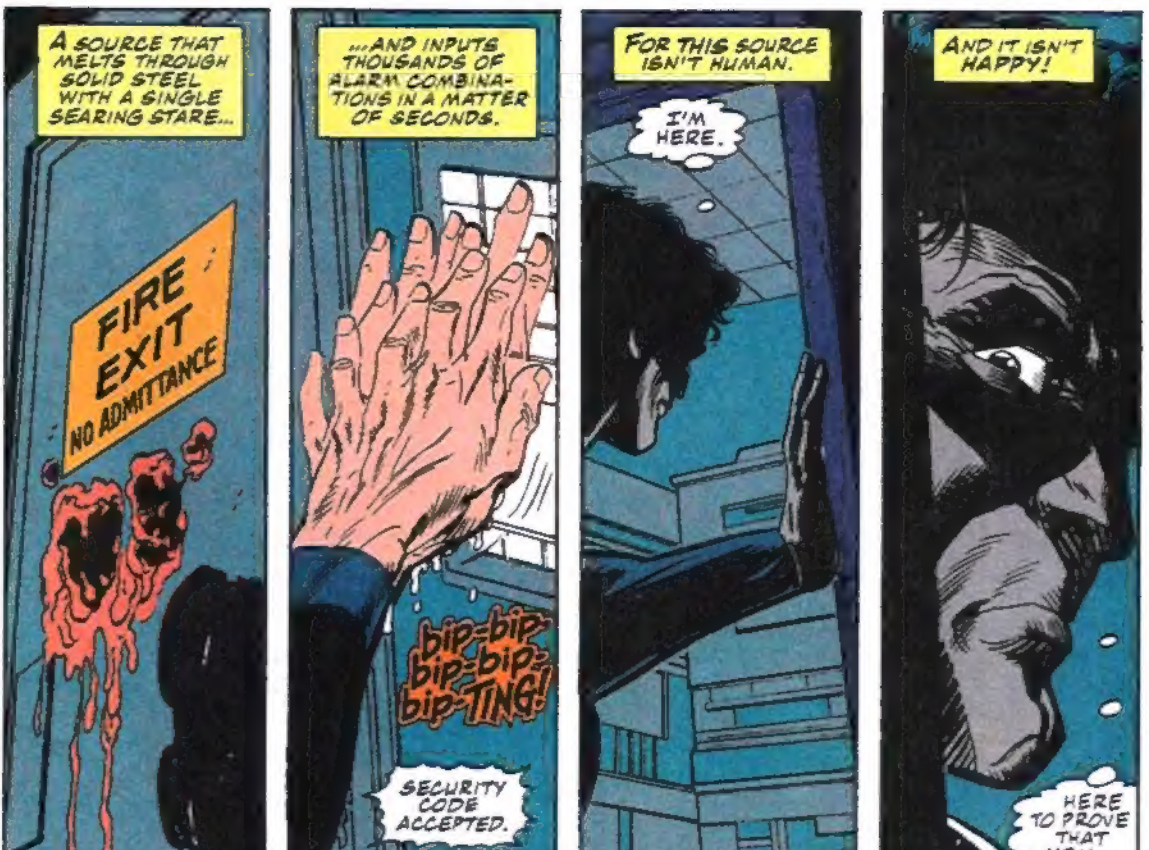
A SOURCE THAT MELTS THROUGH SOLID STEEL WITH A SINGLE SEARING STARE...
FIRE EXIT
NO ADMITTANCE
...AND INPUTS THOUSANDS OF ALARM COMBINATIONS IN A MATTER OF SECONDS.
bip-bip-bip-bip-bip-TING!
SECURITY CODE ACCEPTED.
FOR THIS SOURCE ISN'T HUMAN.
I'M HERE.
AND IT ISN'T HAPPY!
HERE TO PROVE THAT YOU--

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BODIES & MOTION
SUPERMAN created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
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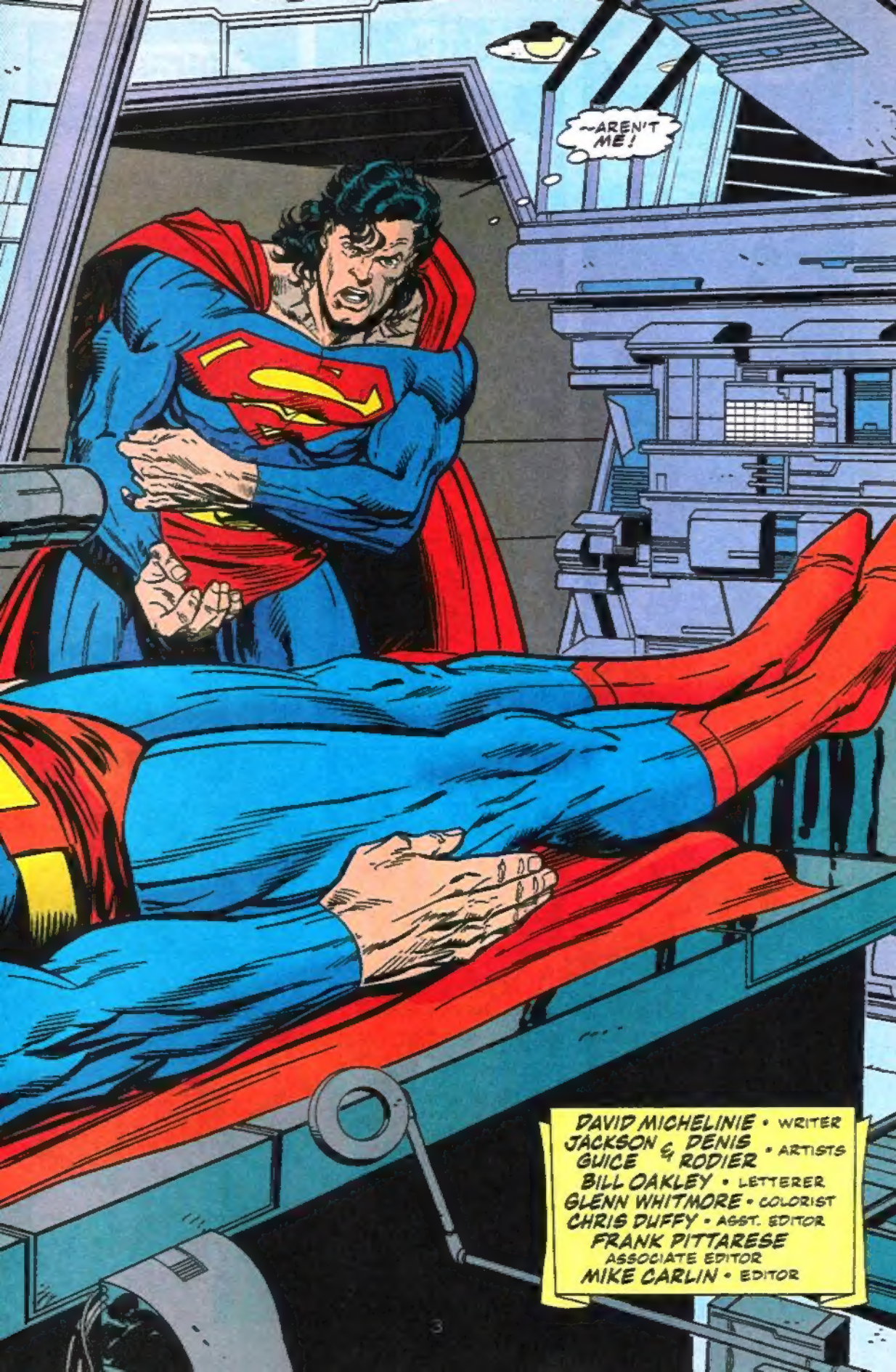
~AREN'T ME!
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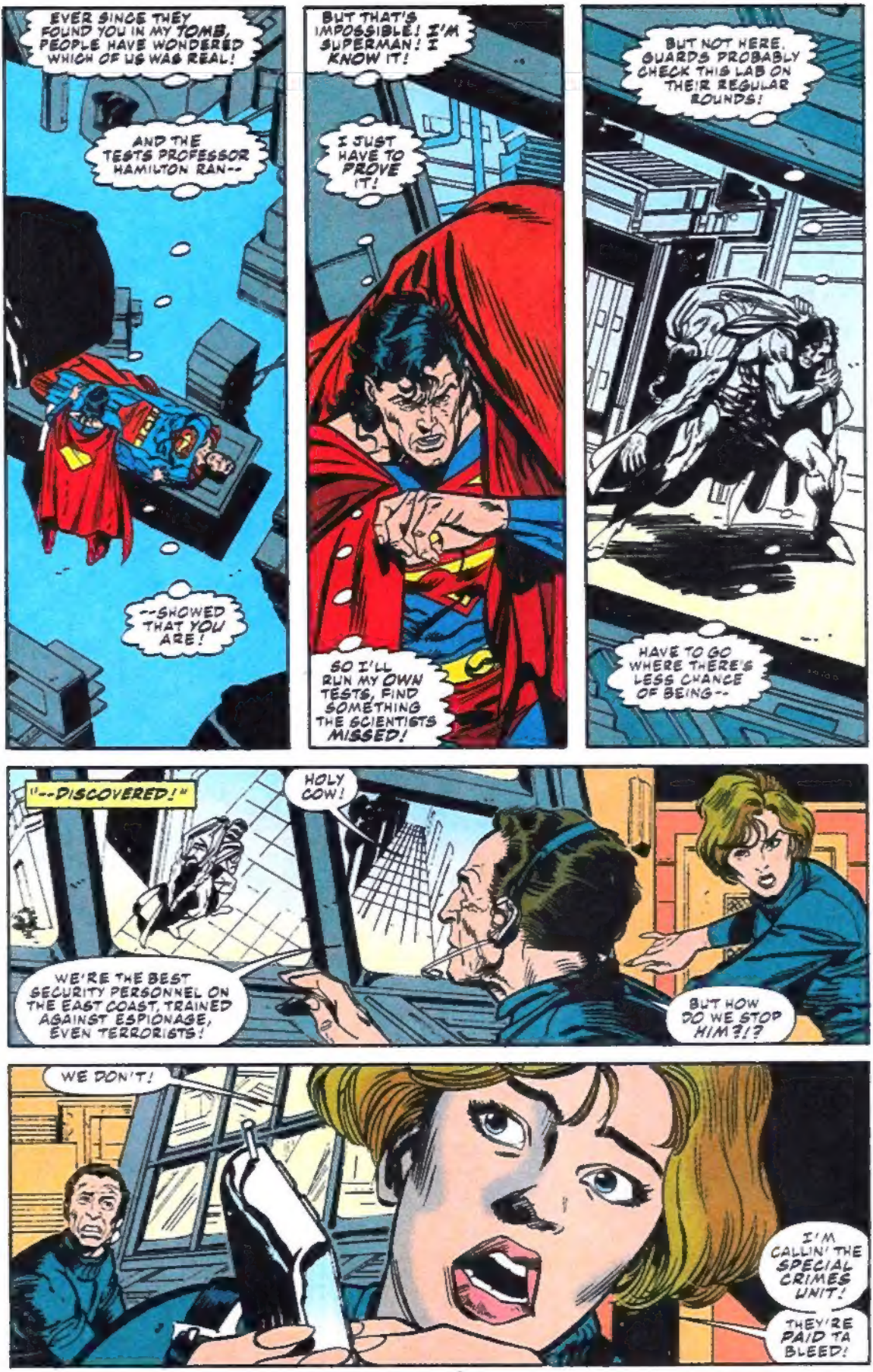
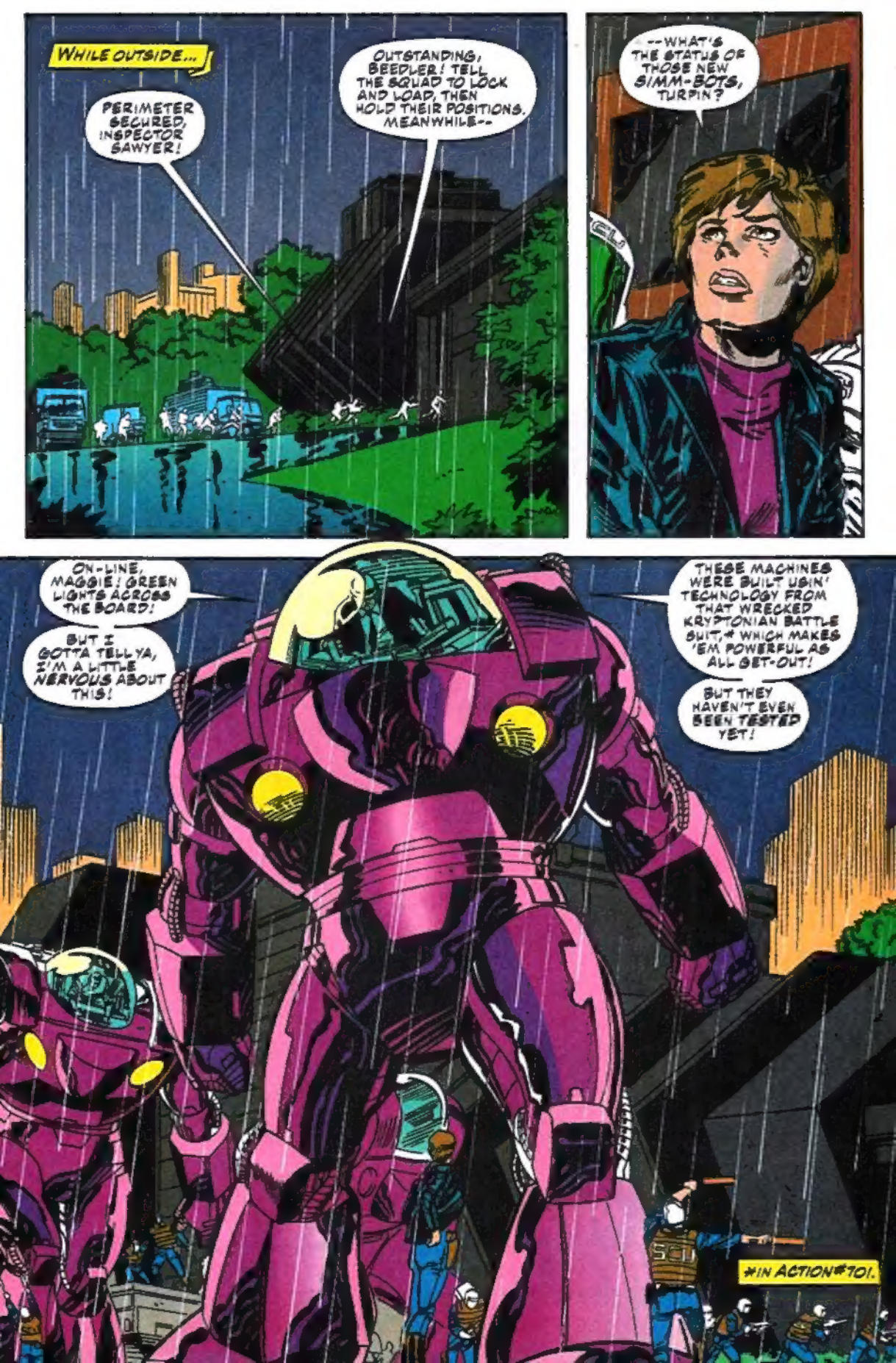

EVER SINCE THEY FOUND YOU IN MY TOMB, PEOPLE HAVE WONDERED WHICH OF US WAS REAL!
AND THE TESTS PROFESSOR HAMILTON RAN--
--SHOWED THAT YOU ARE!
BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I'M SUPERMAN! I KNOW IT!
I JUST HAVE TO PROVE IT!
SO I'LL RUN MY OWN TESTS, FIND SOMETHING THE SCIENTISTS MISSED!
BUT NOT HERE. GUARDS PROBABLY CHECK THIS LAB ON THEIR REGULAR ROUNDS!
HAVE TO GO WHERE THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF BEING--
"--DISCOVERED!"
HOLY COW!
WE'RE THE BEST SECURITY PERSONNEL ON THE EAST COAST, TRAINED AGAINST ESPIONAGE, EVEN TERRORISTS!
BUT HOW DO WE STOP HIM?!?
WE DON'T!
I'M CALLIN' THE SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT!
THEY'RE PAID TA BLEED!

WHILE ACROSS THE WEST RIVER, AT THE DAILY PLANET BUILDING...
HE'S BLEEDIN' LOONY!
C'MON, NIGEL, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT SUPERMAN!
OKAY, OLSEN: HE'S SUPER-LOONY!
EASY! WE'RE HERE TO DECIDE A STORY ANGLE, NOT ARGUE LIKE SCHOOL KIDS!
LOIS IS RIGHT. MAYBE WE SHOULD REVIEW THE NEWS FOOTAGE AGAIN.
A SUMMARY OF EVENTS MIGHT HELP US STAY ON TRACK.
AS YOU KNOW, WHEN SUPERMAN RETURNED FROM SPACE A FEW DAYS AGO, HE WAS ACTING SORT OF, WELL...
FLIP
LOONY?
NIGEL--!
LET'S SAY EXTREME.
HE INSISTED MR. MXYZPTLK WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT BODY IN HIS TOMB, AND HE SWORE TO EXPOSE HIM--
--NO MATTER WHAT!
SOON AFTER, HIS SUPER-HEARING PICKED UP SOMETHING ABOUT A "KILLER MIX"--
--BUT WHEN HE BROKE INTO A BUILDING LOOKING FOR MXY, IT WAS JUST A RECORDING STUDIO MIXING A NEW ALBUM!

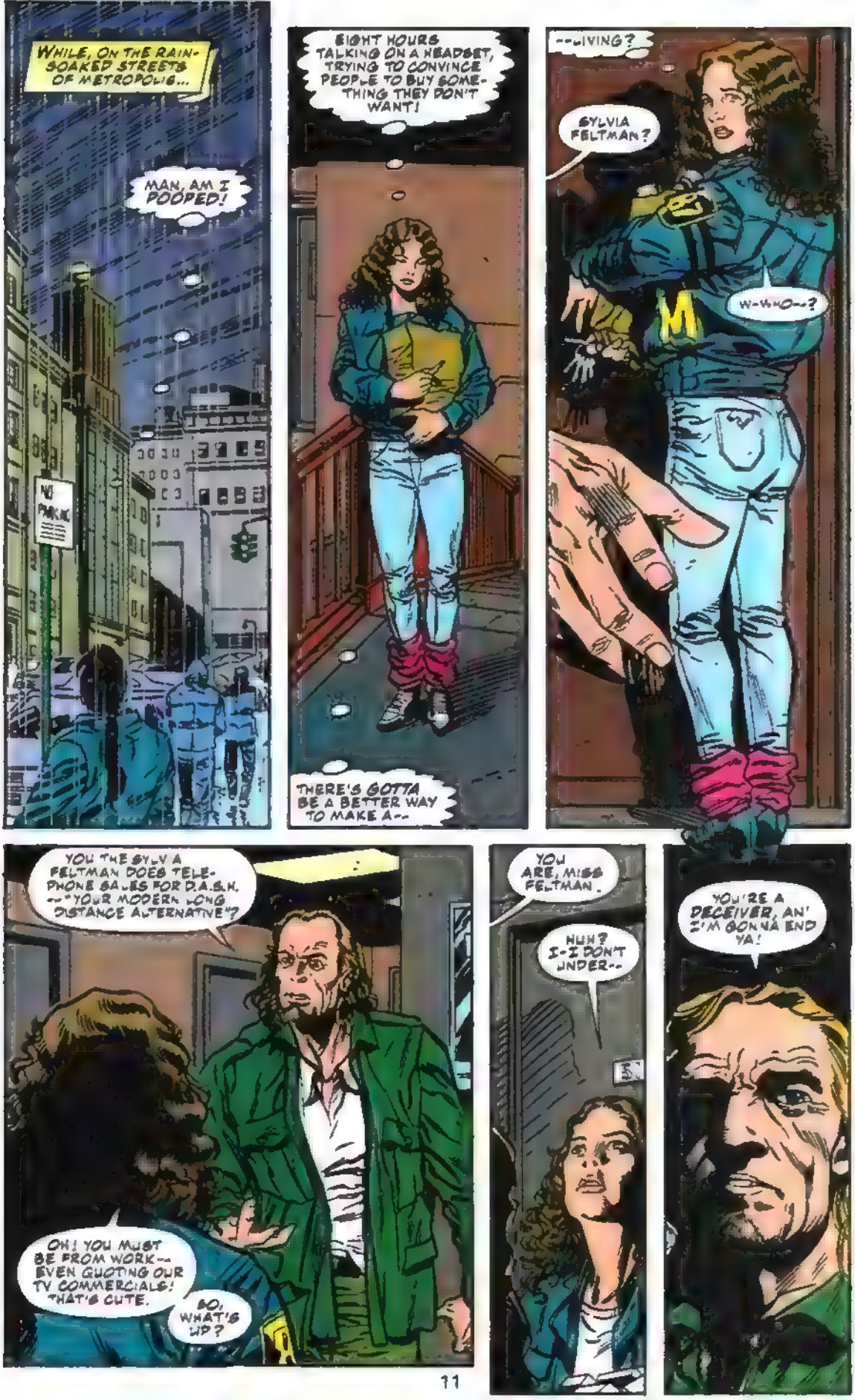
CAN YOU BLAME HIM, RON? I MEAN, MXYZPTLK MAY BE AN IMP--
--BUT HE ACTS LIKE A DEVIL!
"THE FIRST TIME HE CAME FROM THE FIFTH DIMENSION, HE ANIMATED THE PLANET BUILDING, INJURING DOZENS OF PEOPLE--
"--JUST TO HASSLE SUPERMAN!
"AND HE COMES BACK TO TRY IT AGAIN EVERY NINETY DAYS!"
I KNOW, JIMMY. BUT CAN EVEN THAT JUSTIFY WHAT HAPPENED TONIGHT?
WHEN SUPERMAN MUSCLED HIS WAY ONTO WLEX'S LIVE NEWSCAST...?
IT'S YOU, MXYZPTLK! IT'S GOT TO BE!
SHOW YOURSELF, YOU CACKLING WEASEL!
LET'S END THIS ONCE AND FOR ALL!

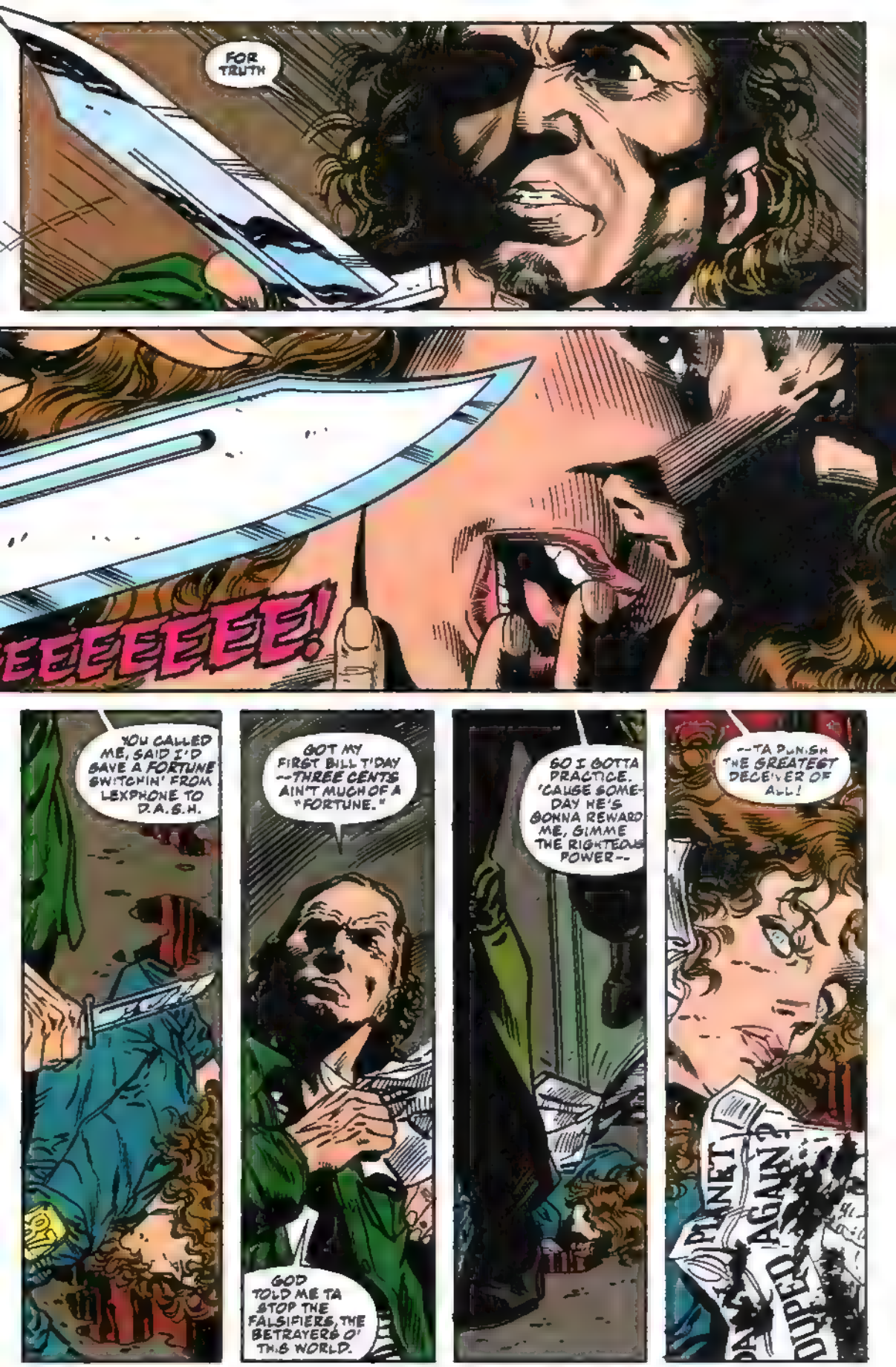
CAN YOU STILL BELIEVE HE'S THE GENUINE ARTICLE--
--THAT SUPERMAN WOULD EVER GET SO OUT OF CONTROL?
STRAIGHT ON, TROUPE! THAT FELLA'S A FAKE!
EVERY-ONE KNOWS THE REAL SUPERMAN IS DEA--
DON'T SAY IT, NIGEL!
OR YOU'LL BE IT...!
TOUCHY! TOUCHY! AN' HERE I THOUGHT I WAS WORKIN' WITH PROFESSIONALS!
STAY COOL, LOIS! NIGEL WROTE FOR THE LONDON TABLOIDS BEFORE COMING HERE.
SENSATIONALISM'S SECOND NATURE TO HIM!
MAYBE WE'D BETTER BREAK, START FRESH TOMORROW.
GOOD IDEA. PIZZA, ANYONE?
NOT ME, JIM. I'VE GOT SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.
I KNOW CLARK IS SUPERMAN, BUT WHY IS HE SHUTTING ME OUT?
SURE, HE'S HURTING, BUT I'M HURTING FOR HIM! IF ONLY HE'D LET ME HELP!
IF ONLY HE'D LET ME TRY...!

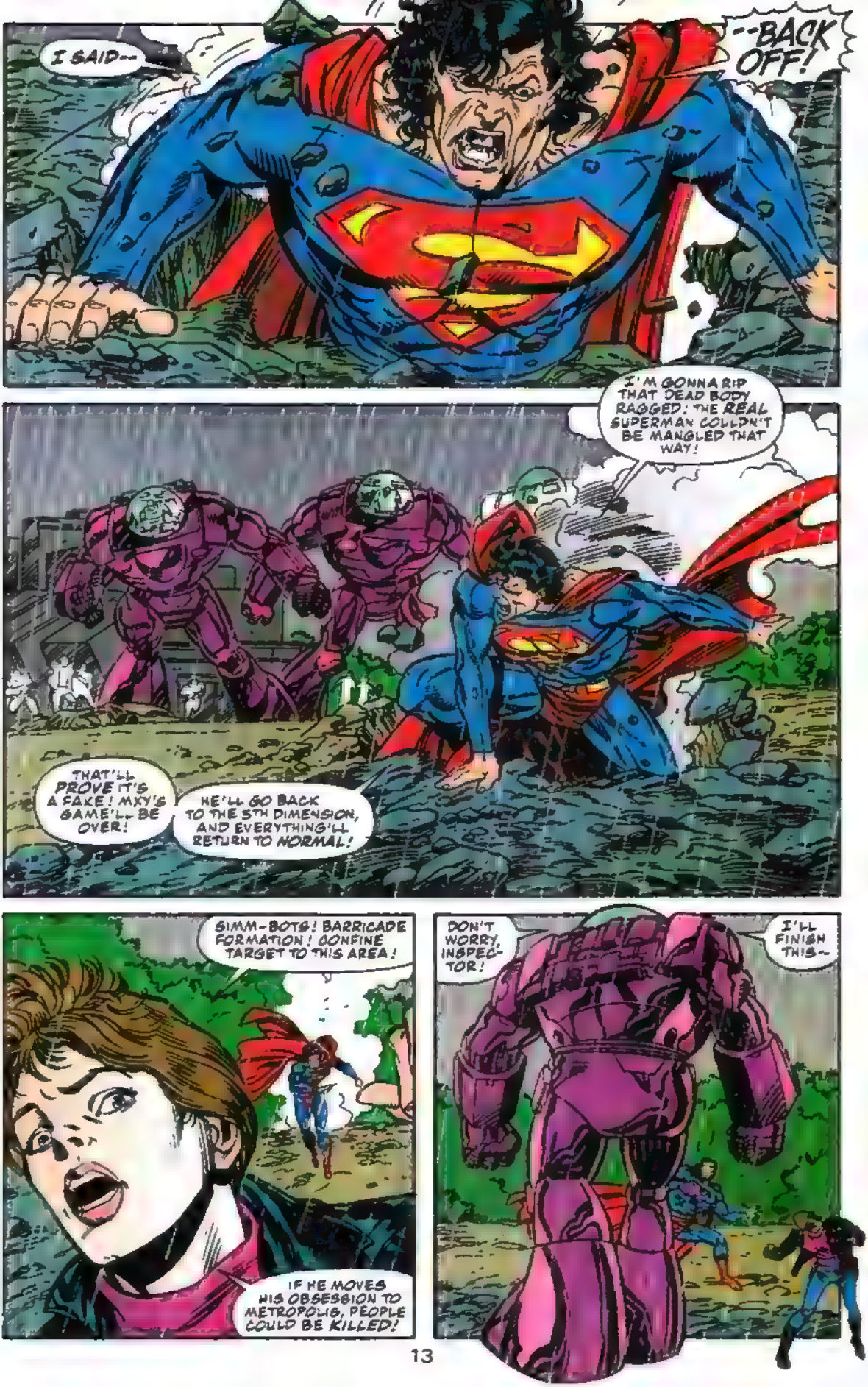
S.T.A.R. LABS...
I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING!
THIS BASEMENT RESEARCH STATION USUALLY SERVES AS A BACK-UP IN EMERGENCIES--
--BUT ITS FACILITIES ARE EVERY BIT AS SOPHISTICATED AS IN THE MAIN LAB!
WITH MY SUPER-SPEED, I WAS ABLE TO DUPLICATE PROFESSOR HAMILTON'S EXPERIMENTS IN RECORD TIME--
--ONLY TO FIND THAT I'D DUPLICATED HIS CONCLUSIONS AS WELL!
THAT CORPSE IS KRYPTONIAN!
CURSE YOUR SOUL, MXYZPTLK!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR GAME IS--
--BUT I WON'T LET YOU WIN IT! DO YOU HEAR?
THERE'S STILL A WAY--ONE RADICAL WAY--TO SHOW THAT THIS BODY CAN'T BE SUPERMAN!


WHILE OUTSIDE...
PERIMETER SECURED, INSPECTOR SAWYER!
OUTSTANDING, BEEDLER! TELL THE SQUAD TO LOCK AND LOAD, THEN HOLD THEIR POSITIONS. MEANWHILE--
--WHAT'S THE STATUS OF THOSE NEW SIMM-BOTS, TURPIN?
ON-LINE, MAGGIE! GREEN LIGHTS ACROSS THE BOARD!
BUT I GOTTA TELL YA, I'M A LITTLE NERVOUS ABOUT THIS!
THESE MACHINES WERE BUILT USIN' TECHNOLOGY FROM THAT WRECKED KRYPTONIAN BATTLE SUIT,* WHICH MAKES 'EM POWERFUL AS ALL GET-OUT!
BUT THEY HAVEN'T EVEN BEEN TESTED YET!
*IN ACTION #701.

AN' GIVIN' 'EM A SHAKE-DOWN RUN AGAINST THE LIKES O' SUPERMAN, WELL...
...LET'S JUST SAY THAT WASN'T NUMBER ONE ON MY CHR'STMAS WISH LIST THIS YEAR!
CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN. JUSTICE LEAGUE'S UNAVAILABLE. IT'S UP TO THE S.G.U. TO HOLD THIS LINE
BUT WHO KNOWS? MAYBE BIG BLUE'LL STAY BUSY IN THE LABS, AND WE WON'T EVEN HAVE TO--
BRAKAMM
NUTS.

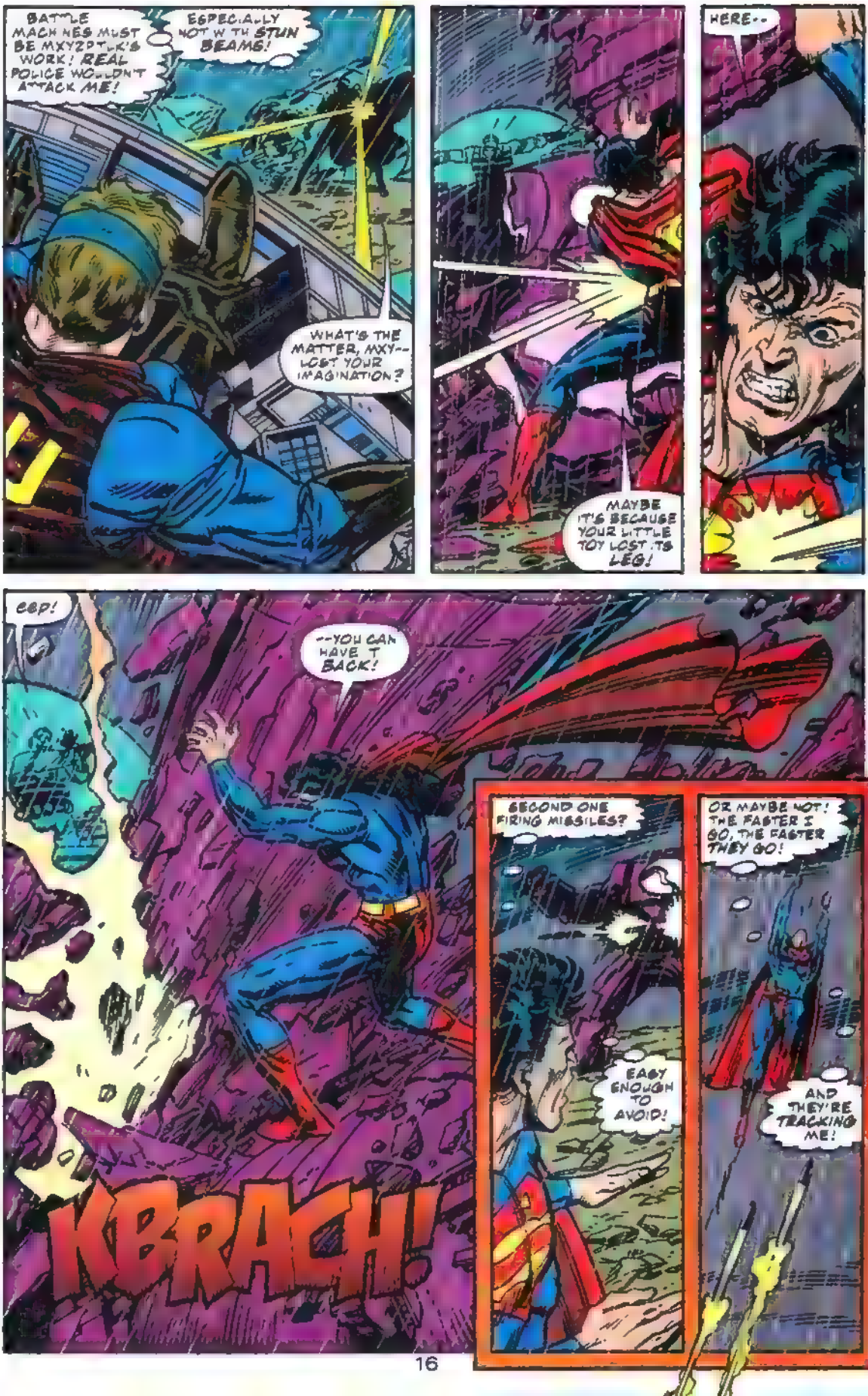

WHILE, ON THE RAIN-SOAKED STREETS OF METROPOLIS...
MAN, AM I POOPED!
EIGHT HOURS TALKING ON A HEADSET, TRYING TO CONVINCE PEOPLE TO BUY SOMETHING THEY DON'T WANT!
THERE'S GOTTA BE A BETTER WAY TO MAKE A--
--LIVING?
SYLVIA FELTMAN?
W-WHO--?
YOU THE SYLV A FELTMAN DOES TELEPHONE SALES FOR D.A.S.H. --"YOUR MODERN LONG DISTANCE ALTERNATIVE"?
OH! YOU MUST BE FROM WORK-- EVEN QUOTING OUR TV COMMERCIALS! THAT'S CUTE.
SO, WHAT'S UP?
YOU ARE, MISS FELTMAN.
HUH? I-I DON'T UNDER--
YOU'RE A DECEIVER, AN' I'M GONNA END YA!


FOR TRUTH
EEEEEEE!
YOU CALLED ME, SAID I'D SAVE A FORTUNE SWITCHIN' FROM LEXPHONE TO D.A.S.H.
GOT MY FIRST BILL T'DAY --THREE CENTS AIN'T MUCH OF A "FORTUNE."
GOD TOLD ME TA STOP THE FALSIFIERS, THE BETRAYERS O' THIS WORLD.
SO I GOTTA PRACTICE. 'CAUSE SOME-DAY HE'S GONNA REWARD ME, GIMME THE RIGHTEOUS POWER--
--TA PUNISH THE GREATEST DECEIVER OF ALL!
PLANET
AGAIN
DUPED


I SAID--
--BACK OFF!
I'M GONNA RIP THAT DEAD BODY RAGGED: THE REAL SUPERMAN COULDN'T BE MANGLED THAT WAY!
THAT'LL PROVE IT'S A FAKE! MXY'S GAME'LL BE OVER!
HE'LL GO BACK TO THE 5TH DIMENSION, AND EVERYTHING'LL RETURN TO NORMAL!
SIMM-BOTS! BARRICADE FORMATION! CONFINE TARGET TO THIS AREA!
IF HE MOVES HIS OBSESSION TO METROPOLIS, PEOPLE COULD BE KILLED!
DON'T WORRY, INSPECTOR!
I'LL FINISH THIS--

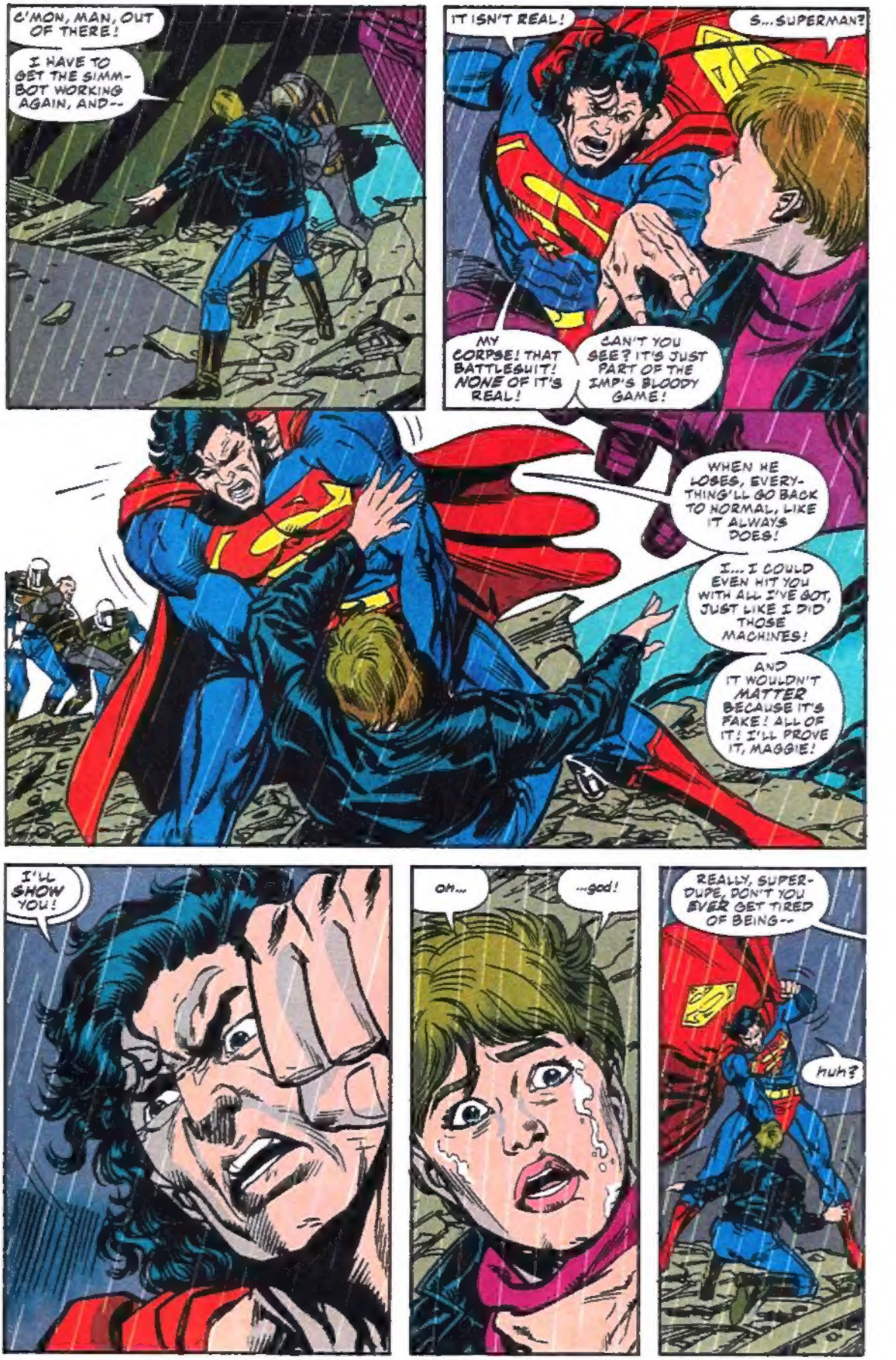
--IN A FLASH!
:hhngh:
THEY'RE USING KRYPTONIAN BATTLE-SUIT TECHNOLOGY!
MODIFIED THE FLOODLIGHTS INTO SOME KIND OF STROBE BURSTS!
CAUGHT ME BY SURPR--
THBAMSH!
STILL SEEING AFTER-IMAGES! BUT THAT WON'T STOP ME!
:tuii:
NOTHING'S GONNA STOP ME!

I'LL STOMP HIM!
BETTER YE', I'LL STOMP HIM!
NO.
SKRRR


BATTLE MACHINES MUST BE MXYZPTLK'S WORK! REAL POLICE WOULDN'T ATTACK ME!
ESPECIALLY NOT W TH STUN BEAMS!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, MXY-- LOST YOUR IMAGINATION?
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE YOUR LITTLE TOY LOST ITS LEG!
HERE--
OOP!
--YOU CAN HAVE T BACK!
KBRACH!
SECOND ONE FIRING MISSILES?
EASY ENOUGH TO AVOID!
OR MAYBE NOT! THE FASTER I GO, THE FASTER THEY GO!
AND THEY'RE TRACKING ME!

WHA--? HE'S PULLIN' A YOOEY! HEADIN' BACK DOWN, STRAIGHT AT--
--ME?
GOOD! AT THE SPEED WE'D BUILT UP, THOSE MISSILES COULDN'T HANDLE AN INSTANT 90-DEGREE TURN!
P POOM!
THAT'S TWO OF MXYZPTLK'S PUPPETS OUT OF COMMISSION!
:OOOF:
AND ONE TO GO!
OKAY, PINOCCHIO--

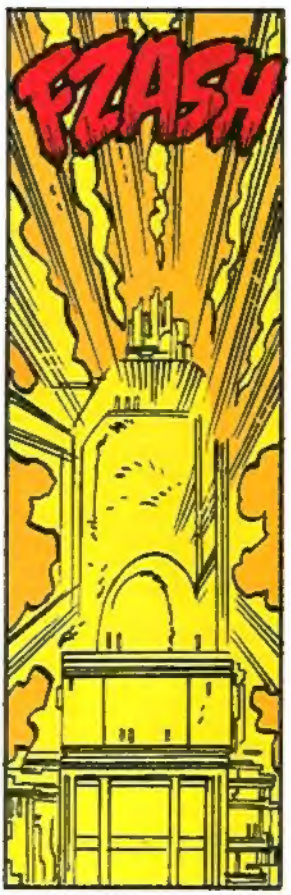
--YOU'RE NEXT!
HEAT VISION? DOESN'T SCARE ME, PAL!
NOT WHEN I'VE GOT A FISTFUL O' ROCKET FUEL!
LUTHOR SCREWED UP WHEN HE TRIED THIS! LIT THE FUEL HIMSELF AN' BURNED OFF HIS HAND!
BUT WITH YOU IGNITING THE SPRAY, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE'S GONNA GET BLAGGED!
DREAM ON.
PHWAP!
TENCLOUDS! YOU OKAY?
I-INSPECTOR ...YOU GOTTA BE... KIDDIN'...!


C'MON, MAN, OUT OF THERE!
I HAVE TO GET THE SIMM-BOT WORKING AGAIN, AND--
IT ISN'T REAL!
S...SUPERMAN?
MY CORPSE! THAT BATTLESUIT! NONE OF IT'S REAL!
CAN'T YOU SEE? IT'S JUST PART OF THE IMP'S BLOODY GAME!
WHEN HE LOSES, EVERY-THING'LL GO BACK TO NORMAL, LIKE IT ALWAYS DOES!
I... I COULD EVEN HIT YOU WITH ALL I'VE GOT, JUST LIKE I DID THOSE MACHINES!
AND IT WOULDN'T MATTER BECAUSE IT'S FAKE! ALL OF IT! I'LL PROVE IT, MAGGIE!
I'LL SHOW YOU!
oh...
...god!
REALLY, SUPER-DUPE, DON'T YOU EVER GET TIRED OF BEING--
HUH?

--WRONG?
MXYZPTLK!
THAT'S HIM!
HE'S THE ONE BEHIND IT ALL!
WISH I WAS! BUT I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU FROM THE FIFTH DIMENSION--
--WAITING FOR THE INTERFACE TO ALIGN SO I COULD COME HERE AND TELL YOU HOW MUCH I'VE ENJOYED YOUR LITTLE RAMPAGE!
BUT, THAT CORPSE! YOU HAD TO BE BEHIND IT!
COME, NOW! IF I'D BEEN PUSHING YOUR BUTTONS LIKE THAT, DON'T YOU THINK I'D TAKE CREDIT FOR IT?
BUT WHOEVER IS BEHIND IT, MY DERBY'S OFF TO THEM!
AND NOW I MUST BE OFF. I BELIEVE YOU WERE ABOUT TO TURN THE LADY INTO SOMETHING MESSY?
PFAF!
CARRY ON!
BUT HE... TH-THEN, WHO...?
OH, MY LORD! MAGGIE!
WH-WHAT I ALMOST DID--!
CAN...CAN IT BE TRUE? AM I SOMEONE ELSE?
I-I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE! I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING!
HEAVEN HELP ME--
--I'M GOING OUT OF MY MIIIIIND!!

MIIIIND!
MIIIIND!
MIIIIND!
NEW GENESIS.
YESSS!
ORION! THAT CRY--IT CAME FROM THE CONTAINMENT!
IMPOSSIBLE, LIGHTRAY! THE PRISONER IS COMATOSE, BARELY ALIVE!
STILL, WITH HIS ILK, IT WOULD BE WISE TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS!
SUMMON THE OTHERS!
FREED!
WHEN THEY ARRIVE, WE'LL SEE WHAT'S HAPPENED--

--BUT YOUR FREEDOM WILL BE SHORT-LIVED! YOU'LL NEVER STAND AGAINST THE COMBINED MIGHT OF THE NEW GODS!
I MUST SAY, ORION, FOR A DEITY--



WELL, THAT WAS FUN.
NOW FOR SUPERMAN!
I'VE ALREADY BROKEN HIS WILL. SO ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR ME TO ADMINISTER THE KILLING BLOW....

CONTINUED IN TWO WEEKS... IN MAN OF STEEL #40!